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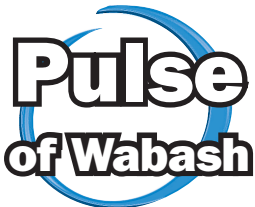
WabashPlainDealer

\$3

WEEKEND EDITION JANUARY 2-3, 2021

Tomorrow's weather

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Seeking sports stringers

Do you have a passion for writing, photography and local sports? The Wabash Plain Dealer is now accepting applications for paid stringers for the upcoming winter sports season. To apply, email your writing and photography clips, cover letter, resume and list of references to rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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City Hall will reopen Monday after being closed for New Year's Day

Wabash City Hall and all city offices were closed on Friday, Jan. 1 in observance of the new year. The offices will reopen at 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 4.

Salamonie to hold Winter Forest Day Camp

Salamonie Lake has announced an outdoor day camp from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4 to Friday, Jan. 8 at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Children ages 7 to 13 are welcome. Events scheduled during the day camp include a daily hike, sit spots, games, shelter and fire building, small groups to prepare and present short presentations on nature topics. Participants will also meet education birds-of-prey ambassadors. The cost per child is \$60 and \$55 for each additional sibling. For more information and registration, call 260-468-2127. Limited space is available. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis.

Honeywell seeking artist entries for Clark Gallery 92 County Art Show

Honeywell Arts &

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Pfizer continues, Moderna begins vaccinations at hospitals, care facilities

Wabash County's COVID-19 spread still rated orange; nearly all surrounding counties red

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Though the ISDH's data reflects community spread of COVID-19 in Wabash County remains elevated, it has edged slightly down since the week before.

However, the county's rating remains in the orange or second-highest category. And, nearly every surrounding county is now in red, the

highest category.

The ISDH dashboard was updated with results as of 11:59 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28. The county metrics map is updated at noon Wednesdays and reflects data through the previous Sunday.

On Thursday, Dec. 31, Gov. Eric J. Holcomb signed Executive Order 20-52 to extend the public health emergency an additional 30 days. He also signed Execu-

tive Order 20-53 to continue the targeted restrictions for counties that have high levels of COVID-19.

Vaccinations continue

After health care workers began receiving COVID-19 vaccinations at locations around the state earlier this month, CVS Health began vaccinations at long-term care facilities in the state this week.

On Tuesday, Dec. 29, Peabody Retirement Community executive director Rod

See COVID, page A6



Provided photo

Lutheran Health has received their second shipment of the Pfizer vaccine and the first shipment of the Moderna vaccine.

Visit Wabash County reviews a year of dramatic pivots



Photo by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

Almost all of the scheduled tours of the newly-refurbished Trolley No. 85 were able to be held in 2020.

As pandemic threatened \$60M annual tourism spending, local businesses adapted to survive

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

In March, the world changed for everyone.

But, for Visit Wabash County, determining how they proceeded meant rethinking how they approached their entire mission.

"We had to pivot dramatically this year to meet our mission while following CDC guidelines," said executive director Christine Flohr, during their annual progress presentation at the Monday, Dec. 14 Wabash City Council meeting. "How do you continue to track economic development and investment in a community where you're supposed to stay away from each other? It was a challenge, but we feel like we stepped up in a socially responsible manner."

Flohr said many similar organizations around the state closed, while they looked for ways to continue working in a completely different environment.

"I feel that the tourism team really leaned into a difficult time," said Flohr.

Flohr said the yearly tourism report was a year behind, but that new numbers should be available soon.

Flohr said the overall trend in local tourism spending is on the rise. The 2018-2019 numbers showed \$60 million in spending in years past for economic investment and impact.

"What we like to watch is continual growth," said Flohr.

Flohr said when the pandemic hit, they had "to do something strategically to make sure that our small business community and attractions can sustain."

Flohr said in March after people began working from home more often, Visit Wabash County started hosted free small business "Zoominars" to help both large and small businesses adapt quickly to the new reality.

"We thought that was really important that we could give them skill sets that help them succeed," said Flohr.

Flohr said they mentored 49 different businesses, which they tracked through phone calls and virtual meetings regularly.

"It was an honor to teach these businesses how to sell online and sell good marketing branding content," said Flohr. "We usually don't do this one-on-one."

Flohr said another new initiative was their partnership with the Community Foundation of Wabash County (CFWC) to sell almost 600 "Better Together"

T-shirts. Gov. Eric Holcomb was even seen wearing on during his regularly televised COVID-19 press conferences.

Flohr said the \$5,000 in profits was gifted to the CFWC and earmarked to help those struggling to pay for rent, utilities and food.

Flohr said one of the main tourism draws in the community, the Honeywell Foundation and their associated properties, were unable to operate main stage programming. However, several events were still able to be held outdoors at the 13-24 Drive-In.

One of the existing events which morphed into something new was debuted in April when Visit Wabash County and the Dam to Dam Wabash County Century Ride committee announced

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New WCS board members officially start terms

Four-year appointments officially began Friday for Fry, Kelsheimer

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The new year brings the start of four-year Wabash City Schools (WCS) board terms for one familiar face and one new one.

At the Monday, Dec. 14 Wabash City Council meeting, District 1 councilmember and WCS liaison Mitch Figert announced the recommendation of current WCS board president Rod Kelsheimer and Jason Fry to fill the two open seats.

The determination came after extensive interviews and discussion Thursday, Dec. 3 when the Wabash City Council first made their decision regarding the two open WCS board seats.

Before the final decision was made during an executive session at the end, the council had a chance to interview each of the five prospective candidates. During each of these 20-minute sessions, they had a chance to ask about their experience, knowledge, interest and qualifications in the open positions.

"It was a really great discussion. We were together for a little over two hours and I appreciate the council's time," said Figert.

During that meeting, by a vote of 4-1, with District 3 councilmember Terry Brewer dissenting, Kelsheimer was approved for re-appointment after serving his first term.

Current WCS board vice president Tony Pulley did not seek re-appointment. To fill that seat, the council

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Shine a light for Babe of Wabash County

Donation allows sponsors to honor loved ones using candles in windows

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Earlier this week, Babe of Wabash County executive director and founder Kathey Till said she first got the idea for a "fun, last-minute fundraiser" from her par-

ents.

Till said she hadn't seen her mom and dad for months before the holidays.

"After a lot of preparation, we decided it would probably be OK if they wanted to come up for Thanksgiving," said Till.

Till said she wanted to show off the Babe of Wabash County house, located at 88 W. Hill St.

"They have not seen Babe yet. And this is such a cool accomplishment for me per-

sonally that I'm excited to show them the house," said Till.

Thanks to a gift of \$100,000 from a local donor, and the guidance of the Community Foundation of Wabash County (CFWC), Babe was able to purchase the home and receive assistance in establishing the incentive-based organization that will provide resources and educational

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Photo by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

So far, the house has 15 candles lit which people are using to either honor or commemorate a loved one.

WCS

From page A1

unanimously approved Fry.

Figert said both Kelsheimer and Fry “brought some really great skills to the school board and I think as a group we felt that.”

Also, Richard (Dick) Brewer, Clint Kugler and Corey Phillippy also applied for the positions, but were not selected.

“The other three candidates were great as well,” said Figert. “It was nice to have some competition and actually have discussion and choices. So, I appreciated that.”

Kelsheimer has been married to his wife, Char, for 26 years. The couple has four sons: Kyle, 24, Kaleb, 21, Kallen, 19, and Kaden,

7. Kelsheimer is a 1991 graduate of Wabash High School and graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Ball State University. He is currently the manager of inside sales for The Ford Meter Box Company where he has worked for 26 years.

Fry is a probation officer with Wabash County Court Services and has over a decade of experience working in the human services field. Fry holds a master’s degree in human services from Liberty University and an undergraduate degree from Indiana Wesleyan University. Fry has been married to Stacey, a third grade teacher at O.J. Neighbours Elementary School, for nearly 12 years and has lived in the Wabash County community for 14 years. He has two children who both attend OJ Neigh-

bours and are a part of the Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program.

At the full Wabash City Council meeting, both Fry and Kelsheimer were approved unanimously.

Unlike MSD and Manchester Community Schools, WCS board members are appointed instead of being elected. They are one of the few school boards in the state of Indiana that is appointed, not elected.

The chosen WCS appointees began service Friday, Jan. 1 and will both serve for four years.

“Jason, welcome to the fray, so to speak,” said Mayor Scott Long, after the final vote. “Rod, thank you.”

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

PULSE

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Entertainment will be hosting its annual 92 County Art Show in the Honeywell Center Clark Gallery from Thursday, Jan. 7 to Monday, Feb. 15. Entries will be accepted from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4. The competition is open to artists of all ages living in any of the 92 Indiana counties. For a list of complete guidelines and artist entry information, visit HoneywellArts.org/92-county. The exhibit will be available for public viewing from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and will be hosted virtually via HoneywellArts.org and the Honeywell Center’s Facebook and Instagram pages. For more information, visit <http://honeywellarts.org/exhibits>.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to hold monthly meeting

The Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12, at the Grandstaff Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave. The program will be given by Junior Membership Committee vice-chair Kathryn Stephens. Amiss said

prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may visit www.dar.org or call Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Barbara Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distribution every other Wednesday

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester; and 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

5-Day Weather Summary

Saturday

Cloudy

42 / 33

Sunday

Scattered Rain

40 / 28

Monday

Partly Cloudy

43 / 29

Tuesday

Partly Cloudy

45 / 32

Wednesday

Mostly Cloudy

47 / 35

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 5:31 p.m.

Tomorrow's sunrise 8:04 a.m.

Last 1/6

New 1/13

First 1/20

Full 1/28

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with a high temperature of 42°, humidity of 81%. Southwest wind 3 to 8 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 35% chance of showers, overnight low of 33°. Southeast wind 2 to 6 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 31°.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen.

The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13.

Wearing a mask is required when entering.

Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15.

For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

WABASH

From page A1

the launch of an extreme triathlon, DAM(N)!MAN!

DAM(N)!MAN! (D!M!) took place on the same day as the Wabash County Dam to Dam Century Ride and will incorporate the newest and longest 150-mile bike route.

“It’s a really extreme triathlon,” said Flohr.

In 2019, the Dam to Dam Century Ride attracted nearly 800 cyclists to Wabash County from 18 different states across the U.S.

Flohr said Dam2Dam was “one of those events where we had to pivot” as it changed to being a freestyle event.

“It was actually more work to do a freestyle event than it was to do it in person,” said Flohr. “We stepped up to the challenge.”

Flohr said they already looking ahead to the next such event in the coming months.

“It goes on all year long. We already started on 2021,” said Flohr. “That planning just keeps going.”

The Dam to Dam Ride (D2D) committee and Parkview Wabash Hospital (PWH) also announced the fourth year of the “Liking for Biking” riding series which began in May and lasted through August.

“We wanted to still keep that event going. People were very cautious,” said Flohr.

In addition to producing billboard campaigns and over three dozen promotion videos, another recent promotional push came about in November, when Visit Wabash County announced their 2020 exclusive ornament was on sale. This year’s chosen ornament artisan, Susan Stewart, created the cardinal ornament out of hand-cut glass and added frit – ground glass – to create bold colors. Flohr said there were only had 100 made because they

hand-crafted by Stewart.

Flohr said almost all of the scheduled tours of the newly-refurbished Trolley No. 85 were able to be held, and they’ve already got the 2021 lineup confirmed.

Flohr said she was excited about trade tours, during which a group of shoppers from Warsaw are brought to Wabash to visit the downtown shops, and vice versa.

Flohr said Trolley No. 85 also hosted numerous corporate and specialty tours.

“We’ve all had to adapt. We’ve all had to change. I’m extremely proud of what this organization has done,” said Flohr.

After Flohr’s presentation, Mayor Scott Long praised the Visit Wabash County team for their hard work during the year.

“I know I’ve thrown you some knuckleballs,” said Long.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

LIGHT

From page A1

programming for pregnant women and families with children between the ages of 0 to 5, according to development associate Melissa Ford.

Till said when her parents drove up to see the house one evening, she went into the house and turned on every light in the house.

“When they came up to the house, my mom came up to the house and said, ‘Wow, this place just lights up like a Christmas tree. You can see it all the way down the street.’ And I was like, ‘That’s so cool,’” said Till.

A few days later, Till’s mother called and said she had an idea.

“‘What if you light the Babe house up with Christmas candles and ask people to sponsor them?’ I’m

like, ‘That’s a great idea. We’ll honor people’s loved ones,’” said Till.

And so, the Light up the Babe House fundraiser was born.

Candles were placed in the windows to honor or remember loved ones.

A donation of \$25 will place a candle in a window of the Babe House and “support our mission of creating positive and healthy family cultures by building community connections, providing educational materials, and offering resources for families in Wabash County.”

Till said so far, they had 15 candles lit which people are using to either honor or commemorate a loved one.

“People are honoring their children, loved ones, grandmas, grandpas, babies, just all kinds of people. It’s just been great,” said Till.

Till said they didn’t get the candles until Tuesday, Dec. 15, so they decided to keep them up until Friday, Jan. 15.

Till said they have at least 30 different windows in the house they can fill with light.

“We have plenty of more windows that we can stick candles,” said Till.

Donations to the Babe of Wabash County fund can be made online at cfwabash.org or by check, with Babe of Wabash County in the memo line, sent to the Community Foundation, 105 W. 2nd St., Suite 100, North Manchester, IN 46962.

To participate in the fundraiser, visit <https://www.babeofwabashcounty.org/light-up-babe>.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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Obituaries

Adapt or fail

How 3 small businesses deal with the pandemic

By **ALEXANDRIA BURRIS**
and **AMELIA PAK-HARVEY**
The Indianapolis Star

INDIANAPOLIS — The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown Indianapolis-area small businesses for a loop. Some business models were rendered moot practically overnight, an environment in which owners had to quickly adapt.

This story catalogs the experiences of three of those business owners, a rental and staging company, a tech company that works with nonprofits and a City Market barbecue place.

In-person event company quickly moves to online

Indianapolis-based Markey’s Rental & Staging was on its way to becoming a \$40 million business annually before the pandemic.

The employee-owned company built its brand on staging captivating in-person events such as conferences, award shows and evenings with prominent figures such as former first lady Michelle Obama.

But in mid-March, all events stopped during the government shutdown. As time wore on, the company cut workers and reduced salaries.

“When the meetings and events industry stopped, it stopped us as well,” said Mark Miller, president and CEO.

Like some other businesses faced with the reality that their services were needed in a different way due to the pandemic, Markey’s switched gears to survive. The company turned its focus to producing virtual conventions and other remote events that could take place online.

“That’s when we really understood, ‘OK, our customers have a product,’” Miller recalled. “They still have a message to deliver, and how can we help them?”

“I think that once we recognized that ... we started making decisions based on what we saw as the future reality, so let’s build a company that meets today’s demand.”

To do that, Markey’s converted a 4,000-square-foot space in its warehouse into a studio. Business development and marketing employees figured out how to advertise the new product.

Others learned to incorporate existing technology into the productions. Event technicians learned how to operate it. The employees shared ideas and met regularly.

What emerged was a company with a new way of doing what it does.

“We produce shows,” Miller said. “We’re averaging about three to four live events a week that we’re doing in our studios.”

In early December, Markey’s produced the Indiana Farm Bureau’s convention. The company has invested in different platforms and created an MVP event experience.

Prior to the pandemic, clients rarely requested online streaming, Miller said, adding that viewership was typically low. Most events were venue-based. That’s changed.

Financially, the company isn’t where it was, but it’s growing. What’s important to Miller is that Markey’s

gets back to profitability.

Pre-pandemic, Markey’s had 260 employees across the Midwest. It maintained a large presence in Austin, Texas, and had smaller footprints in Florida; Washington, D.C.; and Denver.

Eventually, Markey’s cut 110 employees. Those remaining had their salaries reduced. Hourly staff were guaranteed only 32 hours. A loan for personal protective gear helped bring some workers back.

Markey’s is operating at about 40 percent of pre-pandemic levels, Miller said. He hopes to restore salaries by March and expects to break even with the cuts.

The company now has 150 employees. At least 70 percent were trained to have relevant skills for today’s demands, said Miller, who’s looking toward the post-COVID future.

Miller doesn’t believe virtual events will replace live events – they’ll enhance them.

“Once we go back and we have partly a live audience, there’s still going to be a large contingent of people who aren’t comfortable,” he said.

“The next step is hybrid.”

Local tech firm was a success story waiting to happen

Jeb Banner has at least six employees he’s never met face-to-face.

“I mean, it’s weird,” said Banner, CEO and co-founder of Indianapolis-based Boardable, a tech company that makes software to help nonprofits manage communication with their boards. “I mean, it is.”

The employees from around the U.S. and Canada were hired during the pandemic, a time that forced employers to send their staff home to work remotely, physically separated to protect against the contagious novel coronavirus.

Corporate meetings have become virtual. Communication takes place via online chat and email. Hiring decisions are made without ever meeting in person, with a heavy reliance on references, recruiters, social promotion, web cams, work samples and phone calls to get a sense of who an applicant is and whether that person would fit into the company.

“It’s hard,” Banner said. “It’s hard sometimes to feel the cultural fit when you’re not in person. That’s the challenge.”

If the pandemic created winners and losers, Boardable’s ongoing hiring is because the company has fallen on the winning side.

Last year was a stellar year for the company. It secured \$1 million in seed funding from Indianapolis-based venture capital firm High Alpha Capital in May and another \$3 million in December from High Alpha and other investors.

Growth was 150 percent year-over-year in 2019. And, Boardable planned to open a new office in Australia. It needed to rapidly hire and aimed to double its workforce in 2020.

Then the pandemic hit.

Second-quarter growth fell flat. Boardable responded by giving incoming customers a free 90-day trial of its software.

“The pandemic became

a forcing function for a lot of nonprofit boards to lean into technology, and we were positioned for that change,” Banner said.

So by the third quarter, Boardable was converting free users to paid customers. And now in the fourth quarter, Banner anticipated growth of at least 130 percent over 2019.

The company, featured in Forbes and TechCrunch, has caught the eye of more investors, securing an \$8 million round of funding from a group called Base 10 in San Francisco.

It also added video conferencing to its software to create a one-screen experience so documents can be seen without screen sharing.

“Now we’re really looking to grow quickly and 2021,” Banner said. “We’re doing a lot of that through remote hiring.”

It’s a lot of Zoom, Google Meet, and phone call interviews. Banner also said he’s gotten more of his team involved in the process.

“You get more more inputs,” he said. “We’ve opened that up to more of the team and, and you just have to do a few more conversations than you might have in person.”

While Boardable is looking for employees local, the pandemic and remote hiring has permitted the company to cast its net wider. Banner said he now has an employee in Toronto and hired someone from Norway but lives in Ohio.

The company has about 26 employees and seeking to grow to about 65.

Boardable was less remote work-friendly before the pandemic.

The company only made one remote hire – an employee in Mexico they were already familiar with – who wasn’t a good fit, Banner said. So far the company’s pandemic hiring experience this year has been fortunate.

“We’re talking to people all over the country,” he said.

Barbecue place in city market pivots from hot to frozen

Michael Gomez began the year absolutely killing it in sales, so much so that for the first time, he was able to take a real vacation.

The owner of Gomez BBQ in City Market went to Europe. Upon returning, he saw signs asking travelers about their contact with sick people.

It was a foreshadowing of the year to come.

The next 10 months became a roller coaster of surviving the problems 2020 threw at him: His friend created an online ordering platform as the state went into lockdown. He had to let his four employees go, but later hired some back with a payroll protection loan. Important equipment at work broke, including his oven and vacuum sealing machine, but an electrician fixed them.

“It was like, what’s the next problem, how do we solve the next problem?” Gomez said. “We need to get online sales, we got online. We need to deliver, so I delivered.”

The cozy, historic City Market, beloved by city employees and downtown office workers, has been tried and tested from the

onslaught of 2020: the pandemic that killed foot traffic, the protests and shootings that ushered in a negative reputation for downtown, and the surrounding homelessness worsened by a national crisis.

In that span of time, several businesses have closed up shop, including the Tamale Place, Duos, Spice Box and Simply Divine Cupcakes – all casualties of the economic downturn.

The protests in the spring painted a new picture of downtown, one that was unsafe and uninviting to suburban Indianapolis. Like other business owners, Gomez tried to fight that reputation.

“The people that decided to break windows and things like that caused a whole idea of what downtown was like, which wasn’t true,” he said. “They would say, ‘Hey, it’s rough downtown, you can’t go downtown.’ No, I live downtown and I work downtown. It’s not what you think.”

The market, a nonprofit run by a board of directors that tapped a new executive director in November, has tried to help its tenants. It launched a rent deferment program and used federal aid to cover back rent and rental assistance through the end of the year.

The market is still trying to take the bad with the good, encouraging visitors to stop by.

“We thank those businesses for giving it their all for as long as they did, however, I don’t want that loss to overshadow the 20 small businesses who still remain,” new executive director Keisha Gray said in an email. “The City Market has merchants who continue to operate and have shown resiliency and grit, turning to business models such as joining online delivery platforms to attract new customers.”

Gomez, too, rolled with the punches.

Individual hot carry-out orders weren’t feasible, so he ventured into frozen goods sold online.

His new specialties: vacuum-sealed chorizo dips, cottage pie – even smoked pork loin with local Tinker Coffee BBQ rub. He began selling at the Carmel Farmers Market and catered boxed lunches.

The year still proved tough for Gomez: his father, who helped him apply for federal aid to keep the business afloat, passed away in August.

“I’ve had some breakdowns,” he said of surviving the year. “I’ve had some moments where I’m like, ‘I can’t do this anymore.’”

But Gomez has tried to find the fun in his job. Right now, he’s planning out all the holiday Venezuelan foods – his father was Venezuelan – that he would like to sell.

He even brought out a Battleship board game to occasionally play with customers.

His advice to everyone else stumbling through 2020: Find some fun. No one will fault you for wanting to quit your job or try something new.

“I understand the whole concept of work is work for a reason, it doesn’t have to be fun – that’s not true,” he said. “You’ve got to make it fun somehow, or else what’s the point?”

Stephanie Rae Martin

Dec. 20, 1977 – Dec. 28, 2020

Stephanie Rae Martin 43, of Converse, Indiana died unexpectedly Monday December 28, 2020 at Howard Community Hospital, Kokomo, Indiana.

Stephanie was a surgical nurse at the Surgery Center Howard Community Hospital, Kokomo, IN

She was a special aunt to her nephews, Chris (Natalie) Kenyon, Jordan Kenyon, Tanner Martin, and Owen Jones as well as great nieces and nephews Isabella, Mad-dux, Maya and Griffin Kenyon.

She was the daughter of the late Raymond Martin and Janice (Hovermale) Martin, who survives in Converse, born December 20, 1977 at Marion, Indiana.

Stephanie was a graduate of Southwood High School Class of 1996, she earned a degree in Kinesiology from Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana in 2001 and graduated from the Ball State School of Nursing in 2004.

She attended the Lafontaine Christian Church, LaFontaine, Indiana, enjoyed snow skiing, boating and spending time with her family and friends. She was known for her contagious smile, infectious giggle and bubbly personality. She was easy going, helpful, compassionate and funny. She had a loving heart and could never tell anyone no, selfless to a fault. She was the best aunt, patient and loving. She most enjoyed her son, Ian, who was her life. She especially enjoyed any and all events he was participating in.

She is survived by her mother Janice, son Ian, sis-



ters, Karen (Denise) Martin, Marion and Jessica (Justin) Martin-Jones of Lafontaine and many loving aunts, uncles and cousins.

Stephanie is preceded in death by her Father, Raymond and grandparents, Horace and Mary Hovermale and Lester and Ruth Martin.

Funeral services for Stephanie have been entrusted to College Park Chapel, Armes-Hunt Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 4601 S. Western Ave., Marion, IN

Stephanie’s funeral service will be at 11:00 AM Monday January 4, 2021 with Pastor Brad Wright officiating at the LaFontaine Christian Church 202 S Bruner Pike, La Fontaine, IN 46940, with burial in the Converse Cemetery, Converse, IN. The family will receive friends Sunday January 3, 2021 from 3-7 and a hour prior to the funeral at the LaFontaine Christian Church 202 S Bruner Pike, La Fontaine, IN 46940

Donations may be made to a fund set up for her son Ian at First Farmers Bank and Trust.

Online condolences and memories at www.armeshuntfuneralhome.com

Jerry Joseph Blackwell

July 3, 1955 – Dec. 25, 2020

Jerry Joseph Blackwell, 65, of Carol Stream, Illinois, died at 9:10 pm, Friday, December 25, 2020 at his home. He was born July 3, 1955 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, to Dale and Joyce (Beatty) Blackwell.

Jerry was a 1974 graduate of the Illinois School for the Deaf. He married Lynnette Early, daughter of LeVoy and the late Ruth Early, in Roann on August 11, 1990. Jerry worked at W.W. Granger Warehouse in Minooka, Illinois for 43 years. He enjoyed all sports, going to Hard Rock Cafes, traveling, and playing scrabble.

He is survived by his wife, Lynnette Blackwell of Carol Stream, sisters and brothers, Deborah Nevins, and Rebecca Blackwell, both of Elk



Grove Village, Illinois, James Blackwell of Lakemoor, Illinois, Janet (Richard) Hengels of Palatine, Illinois, Barbara Blackwell, Julia Lyles, and Marilyn (John) Gatzliolis, all of Elk Grove Village, and Thomas Blackwell. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Graveside services and burial will be 11:00 am, Saturday, January 2, 2021, at Roann Community Cemetery, Roann, with Pastor Jeff Sumner officiating. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Roann Chapel, 335 S. Chippewa Road, Roann.

Preferred memorials to the American Hearing Impaired Hockey Association.

The memorial guest book for Jerry may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Mark Spalding

March 13, 1960 – Dec. 28, 2020

Mark Spalding, 60, North Manchester, Indiana, died December 28, 2020. Mark was born in Harare, Zimbabwe, in what was then Salisbury, Rhodesia, on March 13, 1960 to Chris and Rosemary (Shepherd) Spalding.

Mark Spalding is survived by his parents, Chris and Rosemary Spalding; brother, Gary Spalding;

and sister, Mandy (Bob) Lane. .

A funeral Mass will be held Friday, January 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, 1203 East State Road 114, North Manchester, Indiana, with the recitation of the Rosary starting at 1:00 p.m.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Nancy Jean Hall

May 19, 1957 – Dec. 29, 2020

Nancy Jean Hall, 63, of LaFontaine, passed away at 5:32 p.m. on Tuesday, December 29, 2020 at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, January 4, 2021 at McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash, Indiana

46992.

Calling hour for friends and family will be one hour prior to the funeral service at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials are to the family of Nancy to help offset funeral costs.

Online condolences may be directed to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com

2 Ind. deputies shoot, kill man who fled traffic stop

KNOX (AP) — Two northern Indiana deputies fatally shot a 63-year-old man after he allegedly drove toward officers he was trying to elude following an attempted traffic stop, state police said Friday.

The incident began just

before midnight Thursday when a Marshall County Sheriff’s deputy tried to stop a pickup truck for a traffic violation along U.S. 30. But the driver – later identified by authorities as Jeffrey L. Marvin of Valparaiso – drove away from the deputy.

Indiana State Police, who are investigating the officer-involved shooting, said two officers with the Plymouth Police Department joined the pursuit as the pickup truck led officers through the city of Plymouth and then swerved at

several police vehicles that had also joined the chase.

Marvin then led officers into adjacent Starke County, where his truck hit tire deflation sticks officers had deployed before he continued down a dead-end road, police said.

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact
your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any
Indiana lawmaker,
go to this website:
[www.in.gov/cgi-bin/
legislative/contact/
contact.pl](http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl)

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainedeal.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

"Am I a God at hand,
declares the LORD, and not
a God far away? Can a man
hide himself in secret places
so that I cannot see him?
declares the LORD. Do I not
fill heaven and earth?
declares the LORD.
Jeremiah 23:23-24

Biden has a chance to revive America's alliances

As U.S. president, Donald Trump has specialized in bullying and berating allies. By contrast, Joe Biden has promised that he will treat U.S. allies with respect and consideration. This is more than a matter of common courtesy. Allies are a crucial American asset in pushing back against unwelcome behavior by China, Russia and other potential adversaries. Fortunately, the new president is pushing at an open door. After four years of Mr. Trump, America's allies in both Europe and Asia are eager to embrace a new era of co-operation with the U.S.. The EU has already taken the striking step of setting out its own agenda for transatlantic co-operation, even before Mr. Biden has been sworn in. The priorities identified by the Europeans look like the basis for a new era of engagement. They include global health, climate change, trade, technology and security. Each of these areas offer the possibility for productive co-operation. With the pandemic still raging, Mr. Biden has promised to take the U.S. back into the World Health Organization. If and when he does, he should accept the EU suggestion to work together on reform of the global health system. The need for an organization such as the WHO is unarguable. But the pandemic

has revealed a whole new set of urgent issues – including the strengthening of early-warning systems, and the production and distribution of vaccines. The Biden administration's decision to re-engage in global climate talks – combined with a UN summit, chaired by the UK, this year – provides another opportunity for Europeans and Americans to work together. Both Washington and Brussels are now talking about linking the trade and climate agendas. Unilateral action by either side would risk carbon-border taxes sparking a transatlantic trade war. But if the EU and U.S. co-ordinate their approaches, they could help to raise global environmental standards – without giving a boost to protectionism in the process. There are similar opportunities and risks in technology policy. There is now a strong feeling on both sides of the Atlantic that the big tech firms need much heavier regulation. But America and Europe have different approaches to privacy. U.S. policy is also inevitably coloured by the fact that so many of the world's tech behemoths are American. Both sides, however, are increasingly conscious of the need to shape global standards – partly to deal with the security and privacy concerns raised by the rise of Chinese tech giants. Once

again, discussion and co-ordination between Washington and Brussels would be in both sides' interests. There is also scope for a new understanding between America and Europe on the vexed issue of "burden sharing". Donald Trump was not the first U.S. president to complain, justifiably, about Europeans' freeriding on American defense spending. At the same time, America has traditionally been reluctant to see the EU develop its own defense identity, for fear that any such development would undermine NATO. There is an obvious trade-off available here. Europeans need to make credible commitments to spend more on their own defense. In return, the Biden administration could take a more relaxed attitude to these defense efforts being coordinated, and perhaps even partly funded, at a European level. If that development took place in full consultation with the Biden administration, it would strengthen rather than undermine NATO. The past four years have put a huge strain on the transatlantic alliance. The next four provide an opportunity to breathe new life into the partnership between the U.S. and Europe. *This editorial was first published in the Financial Times.*



Dubious noises about the debt

Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, the malleable South Carolinian, says the time has come for "a dialogue about how we can finally begin to address the debt." Finally the time is at last ripe. Which means a Democratic administration approaches. Graham wants finally to "begin," as though there has not been, long before and ever since the 2010 Simpson-Bowles commission (the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform), abundant serious thinking and specific proposals for bringing government outlays and revenues closer together. What Graham wants finally to begin is a "dialogue," which is one of Washington's two favorite words (the other is "conversation") to signal protracted solemnity without politically risky actions. The Manhattan Institute's Brian Riedl notes that defense spending is not driving deficits: It is a declining percentage of gross domestic product (5.7 percent in the 1970s and 1980s, 4.6 percent in 2010, 3.2 percent today). Deficits are rising not because tax revenues are declining as a percentage of GDP: They have been close to the average 17.3 percent since 1960. In 1960, however, just 9 percent of the population was over 65. Today, 16 percent is. The great driver of debt is spending on pensions (Social Security) and health care (Medicare). Spending in the name of the pandemic will continue. Trillion-dollar tranches are termed down payments. Then even bigger Biden-era "investments" are planned. Yet economist

John Cochrane of Stanford's Hoover Institution notes that the spending binge will begin "with the same debt relative to GDP with which we ended World War II." And "then in about ten years, the unfunded Social Security, Medicare, and pension promises kick in to really blow up the deficit." Twenty months ago, Laurence Kotlikoff, a Boston University economist, wrote an article in The Hill accurately headlined "Social Security just ran a \$9 trillion deficit, and nobody noticed." In one year, the system's long-term unfunded liability went from \$34 trillion to \$43 trillion. The unfunded liability is almost double the national debt. Riedl says that under government projections, by 2050 Social Security and Medicare "will be running an annual cash shortfall of 14.2 percent of GDP (including interest)." Between now and then, Social Security will have collected \$52 trillion in payroll taxes and other dedicated revenues and disbursed \$74 trillion in benefits. The \$22 trillion gap must be filled from general revenues or by borrowing. What, you wonder, about the system's trust fund? It is a paltry \$3 trillion. Economist John Merrifield's chapter in the Cato Institute's "A Fiscal Cliff" notes that the planned fiscal 2019 deficit was nearly \$1 trillion. This was pre-pandemic and at full employment. The deficit was, Merrifield says, "about five times the combined budgets of five of the cabinet departments created after World War II: Education, Energy, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and Homeland Security." Economist John Garen, also writing in Cato's book, says the projected increase in Social Security and Medicare spending

of 3.5 percent of GDP between 2017 and 2040 is equivalent to adding another Defense Department. Generations ago, Republicans abandoned their assigned role – which was rarely real – as the party of pain that raised taxes to pay for popular Democratic spending programs. Now, in an era of low interest rates – actually, or almost, negative – the assumption is that deficits do not matter as long as the interest rate for servicing the national debt remains lower than the rate of economic growth, so the ratio of debt to GDP declines. At long last, for humanity, or at least the American portion, the table has been set for a free lunch. This arms the political class with a theory that justifies them in doing what they would do anyway – give grateful voters government goods and services partially paid for by nonvoters: future generations. Remember, there are just two ways to fund a government: current taxes and future taxes. (The latter can include the stealthy tax of inflation: Borrow dollars worth X, repay with dollars worth X minus Y.) Complacency about today's soaring debt, and about rolling over \$10 trillion or so of it annually, requires only the assumption that very low interest rates will (unlike, say, the Roman, Habsburg, Ottoman, British and Soviet empires) continue forever. So, an old jest is now a fundamental principle: The first law of economics is that scarcity is real, and the first law of politics is to ignore the first law of economics. If Republicans control the Senate in January, Lindsey Graham will become chairman of the Budget Committee and finally there will be a dialogue about debt. Or a conversation.

Some thoughts on the coal economy

I started my academic career in coal country, working in an economic research center at Marshall University in West Virginia. It was exciting work that touched on far more aspects of the coal industry than I thought existed. Some of the best known work was with two other economists to estimate the effect of changes to environmental regulation on the communities in which coal was mined. That work made its way to Congress and to at least one Supreme Court case. We studied ways to use coal by-products more safely and estimated damage risk due to coal slurry impoundments for the National Academy of Sciences. Probably my most satisfying work was in designing a special reclamation fund to treat waterborne pollutants from abandoned mine lands. That work resulted in what is still the largest state environmental fund in the country.



Michael Hicks

The most interesting thing about that work was that I was invited to visit coal mines and coal mine communities across Appalachia. Now visiting mines and doing field work in communities isn't part of an economist's approach to research, but it was interesting. By the time I arrived in West Virginia, coal mining employment was already more than half a century behind its peak. The introduction of machines called continuous miners and the declining use of coal for home heating cost two-thirds of all mining jobs in the decade before I was born. The energy crunch in the 1970s brought back some of these jobs, but the technological switch to surface mining eliminated another two-thirds of the remaining jobs while production rose by six-fold. The surface mining techniques of the 1980s also opened up coal fields in Wyoming and extended the life of the Illinois basin, including mines in Indiana. That caused more production to shift away from West Virginia to these other regions. The people I met and worked with in West Virginia spoke in very different ways about the loss of these jobs. Coal mining's reputation as difficult, dirty and dangerous work is rooted in reality. One of my mining excursions included an hour-long ride more than a mile underground on a small coal cart. That experience alone is not for everyone. The introduction of the continuous miner machine in the 1950s brought fewer accidents, but also led to black lung disease as mine-shafts filled with dust. Few West Virginians held nostalgia for the toil of their fathers and grandfathers. Still, miners themselves were generally proud of their occupation. They operate large, complex machinery with precision while wearing uncomfortable protective equipment in what are at best inhospitable environments. As a soldier, I recognized the satisfaction of that work, its camaraderie and the sense of accomplishment that each day brought. I fully understand why that work meant more than a paycheck and health benefits. The job losses of the '50s and '90s were so concentrated that most former coal mining communities were a wreck by the turn of the century. The deep loss of coal mining jobs in the 1950s and 1980s led to dramatic population loss across much of the Appalachian coalfields. Perhaps the worst hit county was McDowell County, West Virginia, whose population dropped from just under 100,000 in 1950 to fewer than 20,000 today. Today, McDowell County has the lowest average lifespan in the nation, with one in three residents in poverty and the labor force participation rate at 28.2 percent. There is almost exactly one job for every 10 residents. It is poorer than Mexico and with a worse prognosis. Ironically, most of these communities weren't booming when coal mining jobs were plentiful. The volatility of coal mining employment made investment risky, so the usual trappings of a small town were often absent. Grocers, barbers and physicians were mostly unwilling to build a business in a coal town. So, it was often left to mining firms to build their own company towns. Other industries were also reluctant to compete with mining companies, or open shop in towns where unions struggled bitterly with management. Economists call the fate of these communities "The Resource Curse." One dominant and highly successful industry can absorb all the labor, crowding out other types of development. Today, there are almost no places dominated by natural resource extraction that have escaped this dilemma. The few good-paying jobs of today reduce the opportunity for other firms and inevitably disappear as technology or demand for their products disappear. Coal mining jobs ebbed and flowed, but had their 21st Century peak in 2011, and have dropped by half since. We have about 44,200 coal miners in the United States. Indiana had 2,931 in 2019, a thousand fewer than in 2012. These jobs are not returning. Coal mining won't disappear, but like everything we excel at, we will do so with fewer workers. The United States is a young place, and many of the cities and towns born in the Industrial Revolution have lost their original economic reason for being. This is true for places that once boasted agriculture, manufacturing, mining and moving of goods. There are no longer ghost towns made in America. Social Security and the War on Poverty ensure some continuing population of places, even after their economic reasons for existing have faded. However, the future doesn't guarantee more than that. The good news is that economic changes have unleashed two important forces that give every place opportunity. The economy now relies on people more than anything else, and this has freed most workers from geographic constraints. This means that places that can attract people can also become the engines of an economic future. This is of course harder the farther a town is from a large urban center, or the more distressed its economy has become. But, it has a far better chance of success than yearning for a past that will not return.

LIFESTYLES



Photo by Lynda Balslev for TasteFood

Lobster holidays

Holiday festivities are muted and gatherings reduced this year, inspiring feelings that toggle between a yearning for glitter and a craving

Lynda Balslev



for comfort. How to celebrate and what to eat strive for a balance between these mixed desires. In my mind, the following recipe achieves just that. It's simple yet elegant, special but not pretentious, and relies on a short list of honest ingredients that drive wonderfully fresh flavor.

I grew up in New England, where lobster is ubiquitous. It's the quintessential summer food, associated with the seashore and bare feet, picnic tables and messy eating, accessorized by dribbling butter, nutcrackers and paper bibs. Now, many years and moves later, I rarely eat lobster. When I do, it's usually on special occasions. The once standard summer fare has morphed into a celebratory treat, and there's no time better for such an indulgence than the holidays, when shellfish and crustaceans go over so well with a glass of bubbly.

This is a recipe for this time. It's understated and comforting, yet carries the swag of fresh-cooked lobster meat. The method is simple, allowing the lobster to shine without bogging it down with heavy or

Lobster Spaghetti
Active Time: 30 minutes
Total Time: 30 minutes
Yield: Serves 4

1 pound spaghetti or bucatini
Salt
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 pound grape tomatoes, halved
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, plus more for garnish
1 pound cooked lobster meat, as chunky as possible
1/2 cup loosely packed basil leaves, torn, plus extra for garnish
Lemon wedges

Bring a large pot of generously salted water to a rolling boil. Add the spaghetti and cook 1 minute less than al dente. Drain, reserving 1 cup cooking water.

While the pasta is cooking, heat the oil in a large, deep skillet over medium heat. Add the tomatoes and cook until they begin to break down and their juices release, 8 to 10 minutes, stirring frequently. Stir in the garlic and red pepper flakes and continue to cook until fragrant and the tomatoes soften further, 2 to 3 minutes. Season with the salt and pepper and taste to adjust.

Add the lobster meat to the skillet and stir to coat. Add the drained pasta and 1/4 cup reserved cooking liquid. Continue to cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the dish is well combined, adding 1/4 cup more liquid at a time to your desired consistency. The sauce should be glossy and evenly coat the spaghetti without being stodgy. Stir in the basil.

Divide the pasta between serving plates and garnish with additional basil, freshly ground black pepper, and a squeeze of lemon.

precious ingredients; it humbly yet elegantly gives the lobster (and its necessary splurge) the respect and appreciation it deserves.

If you prefer not to use lobster meat, shrimp are an excellent

alternative, and they will bump this recipe onto your roster of easy week-night meals. When using shrimp, simply saute them in olive oil with a pinch of salt before adding them to the dish.

COVID cluckers: Pandemic feeds demand for backyard chickens

By TERENCE CHEA
Associated Press

ROSS, Calif. — The coronavirus pandemic is coming home to roost in America's backyards.

Forced to hunker down at home, more people are setting up coops and raising their own chickens, which provide an earthy hobby, animal companionship and a steady supply of fresh eggs.

Amateur chicken-keeping has been growing in popularity in recent years as people seek environmental sustainability in the food they eat. The pandemic is accelerating those trends, some breeders and poultry groups say, prompting more people to make the leap into poultry parenthood.

Businesses that sell chicks, coops and other supplies say they have seen a surge in demand since the pandemic took hold in March and health officials ordered residents to stay home.

Allison and Ron Abta of Northern California's Marin County had for years talked about setting up a backyard coop. They took the plunge in August.

The couple's three kids were thrilled when their parents finally agreed to buy chicks.

"These chickens are like my favorite thing, honestly," said 12-year-old Violet, holding a dark feathered hen in her woodsy backyard. "They actually have personalities once you get to know them."

The baby birds lived inside the family's home for six weeks before moving into the chicken run in the yard. A wire-mesh enclosure now houses the five heritage hens — each a different breed — and protects them from bobcats, foxes and other predators.

Mark Podgwaite, a Vermont chicken breeder who heads the American Poultry Association, said he and other breeders have noticed an uptick in demand for chicks since the pandemic began. His organization, which represents breeders and poultry-show exhibitors, has seen a jump in new members.

"Without question, the resurgence in raising backyard poultry has been unbelievable over the past year," said Podgwaite, who keeps a flock of roughly 100 birds. "It just exploded. Whether folks wanted birds just for eggs or eggs and meat, it seemed to really, really take off."

The Abta family bought the chicks from Mill Valley Chickens, which sells chickens, feed and supplies and builds

coops and runs. Owner Leslie Citroen also offers classes for first-time chicken keepers. She estimates her sales have grown 400 percent this year.

"Once COVID hit, my phone just started ringing off the hook and it just has not slowed down," Citroen said. "I don't think it's going to slow down. I think this new interest and passion in chickens is permanent."

Citroen said most of her customers this year are first-time chicken keepers. They range from parents looking for something to keep homebound children busy to "preppers" who want their own protein supply in case the world falls apart.

"Demand is just through the roof right now," Citroen said. "I've sold all my baby chicks. I've sold all my juveniles. And I'm starting to sell some of my family flock."

One of her newest customers is Ben Duddleston, who lives in nearby San Anselmo. He stopped by her home to buy three hens.

The self-described "first-time chicken dad" wanted to surprise his kids, ages 5 and 10, on Christmas.

"I think it's totally pandemic related. I don't think that I'd be doing this if in normal times," Duddleston said.

Investing in 2020 was a scary, bumpy ride – here's what to expect in 2021

No, you weren't overreacting if you spiraled into a heart-clutching panic when the U.S. stock market dived in March due to the first spread of the pandemic. I got scared.

As I get closer to retiring, I watch my retirement account closer than ever before. Every swing down makes me freak out. Even when my account rises again, I get nervous wondering when there will be another plunge. But experts say there is often no cause for alarm.

"The stock market can do well even when the economy seems to be doing poorly," said Dan Egan, managing director of behavioral finance for Betterment.

As we close out 2020 — thank goodness — I asked some financial experts what lessons retirement investors should learn from a stock market that left people feeling jet-lagged from the market turbulence this year. Here's what they had to say.

Christine Benz, director of personal finance for Morningstar:

Michelle Singletary



1. Put your retirement plan on autopilot.
- For people who were investing through regular paycheck deductions in a company retirement plan, 2020's short-lived market crash was a nonevent. Data suggest that most 401(k) investors didn't flinch during this period, and that illustrates the virtue of putting in place a good, hands-off system. That way you don't have to worry about what to do during periods of volatility.
2. Play a good defense.
- Research on brain functioning demonstrates that it's next to impossible to think long term if you're worried about your short-term well-being. And 2020's first quarter provided a vivid illustration of this, as many workers experienced job losses just as the market was tanking. To be a successful long-term investor, it's crucial to have enough liquid reserves set aside to carry you through unexpected events, whether a job loss or large medical expenses. That way you'll never be in the position of needing to raid your long-term investments when they're down. Holding three to six months' worth of liquid reserves is a good benchmark for most people, but those who should target an even bigger cushion include older employees, highly paid workers, contractors, or those who earn their living from the gig economy. These workers should aim to save a full year's salary of liquid reserves.
3. It's not too late to invest in stocks.
- Investors who read headlines about the strong gains notched this year by the major markets might assume that they've missed the boat. The good news is that, at least until recently, only a fairly narrow segment of the market was increasing, while everything else didn't perform nearly as well. That suggests that investors with stocks in their portfolios should make sure they have well-balanced exposure, not just famous technology names like Apple, but also some value-oriented and non-U. S. stocks that still have plenty of room to grow.

Carolyn McClanahan, a certified financial planner who founded the fee-only Life Planning Partners based in Jacksonville, Fla.:

1. Everyone needs an emergency fund.
- This keeps you from tapping into money that can be expensive to use, such as credit cards, retirement plans and the sale of assets.
2. You need a plan.
- People need an investment policy on how much to allocate to certain riskier assets (stocks, real estate) and safer assets (bonds, CDs, and cash). By sticking to your allocation during times of market upheaval, you are less likely to sell out of the market in fear, which is what many people did during the market downturn in March. And they paid dearly for this mistake.
3. Invest in yourself.
- What 2020 taught us is that even the most recession-proof jobs can be challenged in some circumstances. Some people think their jobs are recession proof. Health-care workers are one example. The critical-care workers kept their jobs, but those in medicine who were not deemed essential suffered cutbacks. By investing in yourself and keeping skills sharp, it makes it easier to pivot to alternative work to create an income.
- Ric Edelman, founder of Edelman Financial Engines:*
1. There's more to life than money.
- Covid showed us how unpredictable and fragile our lives are. Let's use this lesson to be sure we're living the life we want to live, focusing on health, family, career, home and community.
2. Respect other perspectives.
- Covid showed us that our lives are far more connected to each other than we realized. Let's live our lives in an inclusive, not exclusive, manner.
3. Ignore predictions.
- With thousands of people offering predictions, it's likely that one of the predictions offered by one of them will come true — but it will be due to sheer luck, not brilliance, skill or talent. And the person who got it right last time will probably be wrong next time.

The stock market took us on a bumpy, scary ride in 2020. So, here's what these experts said you should expect in the new year:

"As much as we're all relieved to have a vaccine, and return to normalcy is on the horizon, I wouldn't rule out that 2021 will feature some market jolts along the way," Benz said.

Benz said this makes it especially important that investors match their portfolio to their spending horizon.

"Investors who are getting close to retirement should consider reducing risk in at least a portion of their portfolios," she said. "When they do eventually retire, they will be able to spend from their safe investments, cash and bonds, if stocks encounter a period of turbulence."

Still, keep in mind the very low yields on safe investments, Benz added. "Even retirees need the growth potential that comes along with stocks," she pointed out. "They can't afford to settle for very low returns that may even be negative once inflation is factored in."

I'll leave you with this from Eric Bronnenkant, head of tax for Betterment, for what to do in 2021.

"Be strong," he said. "Maintain focus on long-term goals, and ignore stock market noise."

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichelleSingletary). Comments and questions are welcome, but due to the volume of mail, personal responses may not be possible. Please also note comments or questions may be used in a future column, with the writer's name, unless a specific request to do otherwise is indicated.

Virtual and in-person church services

Asbury Country Church

At the Sunday, Jan. 3 service at Asbury Country Church, the services will be 9:30 a.m. for Sunday school and 10:30 a.m. for the worship service. The worship and music leader will be Amy Bullick, and the piano will be by Kathy Staggs. The Morning Message will be, “Water AND Spirit” by Pastor Mike Bullick.

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ

Online services are available by visiting www.bachelorcreek.com.

Catholic Church Province of Indianapolis

According to Jennifer Simerman, secretary for communications for Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the following statement has been issued by the Catholic bishops of the Province of Indianapolis, which is comprised of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the dioceses of Gary, Lafayette, Fort Wayne-South Bend and Evansville: “While commending our pastors and pastoral life coordinators who have gone to great lengths to assure safe worship spaces in our churches, given the continued increase of COVID-19 cases in our state, the Indiana bishops hereby extend the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation beyond Sunday, Nov. 1 until further notice. The Indiana bishops will continue to monitor the situation to determine when it might be advisable to modify or lift the dispensation.” Specific liturgical directives and recommendations, as well as remote Mass participation and resource options, are available on the diocesan website at www.diocesefwsb.org/covid-19.

Christ United Methodist Church

Worship service is streamed live every Sunday on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ChristUMCWabash/.

Christian Heritage Church

Streaming services online and broadcast on 95.9 FM.

College Corner Brethren Church

Pastor Joe Bellone’s sermons are posted (with hand-outs) on both Facebook and YouTube under “College Corner Brethren Church.”

Common Ground Prayer House

The Common Ground Prayer House will be open to the public from 8 to 10 a.m. Mondays, except holidays, at 78 W. Hill St. COVID-19 precautions will be taken

in the form of masks being worn by prayer house representatives and social distancing. For more information, call Jennifer Mahan at 260-571-8063, Shirley Neale at 260-591-0047 or Debbie Sweet at 260-571-6072.

Dora Christian Church

If you can’t make it to the live services, Preacher Mark Wisniewski’s sermon will be posted on the Dora Christian Church Facebook group Sunday morning for all to see.

LaFontaine Christian Church

The LaFontaine Christian Church pre-records the sermon which is then available for all to view at www.lafontainechristian.com under the sermons tab, stated Pastor Brad Wright.

LaFontaine United Methodist Church

Pastor Susan Shambaugh says that her LaFontaine United Methodist Church is live-streaming on their Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/LaFontaine-United-Methodist-Church> and that it may be accessed as a video afterward.

Lincolnville United Methodist Church

Lincolnville United Methodist Church, 5848 E. 500 South, will continue to hold online services at 10 a.m. Sundays. Services may be found on the Lincolnville UMC Facebook page. Starting in February, there will be two worship services and no Sunday school. The first worship service will be at 9 a.m. and the second worship service at 10:30 a.m. Pastor John Cook asks parishioners to call or text him at 260-563-1406 and RSVP with which service, number of people attending and phone number. Coffee and bottled water will be offered, but no snacks. Pastor John Cook asks parishioners to wear a face mask. All this could change if the number of COVID-19 cases in Wabash spike after the Christmas celebrations. For more information, email pastor john1954@gmail.com or call 260-563-1406.

Living Faith Lutheran Church

Welcome to our in-person worship service at 10:10 a.m. Sundays at Living Faith Lutheran Church, 242 S. Huntington St. Bible study and Sunday school are at 9 a.m. for all ages. The sanctuary is arranged for social distancing. Masks are encouraged and available. Online services are at 10:10 a.m., with pre-service music at 10 a.m. For virtual services and more information, visit www.livingfaithwabash.org.

Manchester Church of the Brethren

Pastor Kurt Borgmann from the Manchester Church of the Brethren stated they will hold a live-stream service at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday by visiting www.manchestercob.net. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on the black button that says, “Manchester CoB YouTube Channel.” After the service is finished, one may access a video copy of the live-stream in the same way. Another way to access the live-stream or posted video: go to YouTube, search “Manchester Church of the Brethren,” and click on the circle profile.

North Manchester Congregational Christian Church

Pastor Sebrina Cline stated live streaming begins on their Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sundays for the North Manchester Congregational Christian Church, and lasts 30 to 40 minutes.

North Manchester Missionary Church

The North Manchester Missionary Church is streaming live on their Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sunday. The video is then placed on their webpage, which can be viewed by visiting NMMC1.com.

Olive Branch Church of God

The Olive Branch Church of God live-streams Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. Find it through Facebook, by searching Olive Branch Church, or by visiting www.facebook.com/myolivebranchchurch or through the church website www.olivebranch.church. Click “Live Streaming” at the top, then click the series icon (lion head).

Roann United Methodist Church

Pastor Wayne Balmer will have service at 9 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 3 online, taken from 1st Corinthians 11:23-28 titled, “Bread & Wine.”

Southside Free Will Baptist

Streaming on their Facebook page.

Sweetwater Assembly of God

Streaming services online using the normal service schedule.

Urbana Yoke Parish

Rev. Larry Wade of the Urbana Yoke Parish stated that his congregation posts Sunday services to www.urbanayokeparish.com. Go to the menu line at the top of the page and select “Worship Videos.” The most recent one will appear first. Sunday services are posted by noon every Tuesday.

Wabash Church of the Brethren

At the Wabash Church of the Brethren, Pastor Doug Veal is holding a Zoom meeting each Sunday for worship. The meeting is open at 10:15 a.m. so that everyone can be connected by 10:30 a.m. Join this church service by visiting <https://zoom.us/j/393263884> or by calling 312-626-6799 and enter meeting ID No. 393 263 884.

Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) offers streaming at 9:30 a.m. Sundays both on their website at wabashchristian.org and Facebook page, Wabash Christian Church. The minister is Rev. Haley Asberry.

Wabash Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Kirk Johnson, of the Wabash Church of the Nazarene, stated their service is available on YouTube on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Find it by going to YouTube and search for “Wabash Nazarene” or search Facebook for the Wabash Church of the Nazarene. Another option is to visit www.wabashnaz.com, look for the home page, and find “Latest Sermon.”

Wabash First Church of God

In the 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 3 worship service at Wabash First Church of God, 525 N. Miami St., Pastor Robb Rensberger will speak on “Life Is from God.” The sermon can also be seen on YouTube under Wabash 1st Church and heard on Sunday morning at 11 a.m. on 105.9 FM. While in the church building, masks are optional but we do practice social distancing. Sunday Servants are Dorothy Carpenter, chairperson; Sue White, worship; Rose Sands, piano; and Nancy Kolb, organ.

Walk By Faith Community Church

Pastor Greg Wilburn of Roann’s Walk By Faith Community Church says to access his online sermons at www.walkbyfaithcommunitychurch.com.

Zion Lutheran Church of Wabash

Pastor Jerry Gauthier says that the Zion Lutheran Church of Wabash is streaming through their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/zionwabash at 10:30 a.m. Sundays.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabash-plaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

COVID

From page A1

Craft said they will begin administering the first dose of the two-part COVID-19 vaccination at their facility beginning Saturday, Jan. 2 and Sunday, Jan. 3.

Craft said they do not have any active COVID-19 positive residents within their community. Craft said they have two COVID-19 positive staff members, who are both in quarantine.

“In an effort to further contain the spread of COVID-19, we have remained diligent in our screening and testing efforts. This includes testing our residents weekly and continuing to test all of our employees twice a week,” said Craft.

At 12:09 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, Parkview Health made history by administering the first COVID-19 vaccine in the state of Indiana. Parkview Health public relations manager Tami Brigle said Parkview anticipated receiving a shipment of about 2,000 doses of the vaccine that week and 8,000 doses the following week. As of Thursday, Dec. 17, Brigle said they had administered more than 650 vaccines to healthcare personnel from Monday through Wednesday.

More than 20,000 Indiana healthcare workers statewide had already registered to get their first dose. More than 50 Indiana hospitals and clinics were expected to receive a total of 55,575 doses of vaccine by the end of that week, and additional shipments are expected weekly. The vaccine requires two doses administered a minimum of 21 to 28 days apart.

As part of the state’s vaccination plan, Marion General Hospital (MGH) has been designated as a Phase 1-A vaccine distribution site and will be responsible for handling the vaccination of health care workers in Grant and Wabash counties.

On Thursday, Dec. 14, Lutheran Health community relations and strategic events director Joy Lohse said they would begin vaccinations the following morning at Dupont Hospital in Fort Wayne and Kosciusko Community Hospital in Warsaw.

On Tuesday, Dec. 29, Lohse said they had received their second shipment of the Pfizer vaccine and the first shipment of the Moderna vaccine.

“The process at our vaccine sites is going smoothly and we continue to follow all local, regional and national guidance,” said Lohse. “We anticipate having adequate supplies.”

For more information, visit www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine.

Long-term care facilities

The ISDH’s long-term care facilities dashboard was updated at noon Wednesday, Dec. 30 with results as of Wednesday, Dec. 23. New positive cases and deaths have occurred over a range of dates but were reported to the ISDH seven days before the last dashboard update.

In Wabash County, only Bickford of Wabash reported no cases.

Otherwise, during the latest update, in Wabash County:

■ Timbercrest Senior Living Community in North Manchester reported seven total resident positive cases, fewer than five total resident deaths and 34 staff positive cases.

■ Peabody Retirement Community in North Manchester reported fewer than five new resident deaths, 52 total resident positive cases, nine total resident deaths and 115 staff positive cases.

■ Wellbrooke of Wabash reported 25 total resident positive cases, eight total resident deaths and 22 staff positive cases.

■ Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Centre reported 19 total positive cases, fewer than five total resident deaths and 14 staff positive cases.

■ Vernon Health and Rehabilitation reported fewer than five new resident positive cases, 35 total resident

positive cases, fewer than five total resident deaths and 26 staff positive cases.

■ Rolling Meadows Health Care Centre in LaFontaine reported fewer than five new resident positive cases, fewer than five new resident deaths, 56 total resident positive cases, 13 total resident deaths and 14 staff positive cases.

■ Miller’s Merry Manor – Wabash East reported seven total resident positive cases and 18 staff positive cases.

■ Miller’s Merry Manor – Wabash West reported fewer than five total resident positive cases and nine staff positive cases.

Local figures

On Wednesday, the ISDH reported 20 new local positive COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 2,594, with 12,007 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 5.8 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 22.4 percent.

On Thursday, the ISDH reported 14 new local positive COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 2,607, with 12,072 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 5.4 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 21.2 percent.

Testing continues at Parkview Wabash

OptumServe will administer free COVID-19 testing from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays at Parkview Wabash Hospital “on an on-going basis.” Testing will take place at 8 John Kissinger Drive in the first-floor conference room of the Medical Office Building (MOB) adjoining Parkview Wabash Hospital. Testing site patrons should not use the MOB entrance or enter through the hospital, but instead, enter and exit through the designated entrance between the two buildings. Signage will mark the appropriate entrance, which is within a few steps of the conference room and testing site.

Residents will have to register to schedule an appointment through the Optum/LHI website by visiting <https://lhi.care/covidtesting> or by calling 888-634-1116.

Statewide figures

On Thursday, the ISDH announced that 6,543 additional Hoosiers have been diagnosed with COVID-19 through testing at state and private laboratories. That brings to 511,485 the number of Indiana residents now known to have had the novel coronavirus following corrections to the previous day’s dashboard.

A total of 7,911 Hoosiers are confirmed to have died from COVID-19, an increase of 99 from the previous day. Another 352 probable deaths have been reported based on clinical diagnoses in patients for whom no positive test is on record. Deaths are reported based on when data are received by the state and occurred over multiple days.

To date, 2,636,695 unique individuals have been tested in Indiana, up from 2,622,879 on Wednesday. A total of 5,681,710 tests, including repeat tests for unique individuals, have been reported to the ISDH since Feb. 26.

Besides the Parkview Wabash testing site, the ISDH will offer free COVID-19 testing at the locations from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday at the following locations:

■ Boy Scout Building, Riley Park, 101 Riley Road, Delphi.

■ Huntingburg Event Center, 110 E. 14th St., Huntingburg.

■ Church of Christ gymnasium, 430 5th St., Rising Sun.

■ Warren County Fairgrounds, 408 Indiana 28, Williamsport.

To find other testing sites around the state, visit www.coronavirus.in.gov and click on the COVID-19 testing information link.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabash-plaindealer.com.

District no longer secludes students with disabilities

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A southwestern Indiana school district has agreed to stop secluding and restraining students with disabilities, the U.S. Justice Department said Thursday.

The agreement with the North Gibson School Corp. in Princeton follows the department’s investigation into a complaint that the district inappropriately secluded and restrained students with emotional and behavioral disabilities as young as 5 years old in so-called self-contained classrooms.

Self-contained classrooms were defined as those com-

prised only or primarily of students with disabilities where a special education teacher instructs all or nearly all academic subjects. They including “life skills” and “emotional disabilities” classrooms and similar classrooms in preschool, the agency said.

The seclusion and restraint resulted in days and sometimes weeks of lost instructional time, the department said.

“When school districts improperly seclude or restrain students with disabilities, they inflict grievous harm on some of America’s most

vulnerable children,” Assistant Attorney General Eric Dreiband of the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division said in a statement. “Students with emotional and behavioral disabilities need additional supports in the classroom, not practices that keep them out or subject them to isolation and trauma.”

Students with disabilities are guaranteed equal access to education under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Dreiband said.

The school district cooperated fully throughout the investigation and voluntarily

suspended its use of seclusion rooms before the investigation was completed, the department said.

Under the settlement, the district will, among other things: change its policies to prohibit use of seclusion rooms; report all instances of restraint and review whether they were justified; and take steps to avoid placing students with emotional and behavioral disabilities on an abbreviated school day or homebound instruction, the department said.

A phone message seeking comment was left with the district Thursday.

State Road 37 closing at Martinsville for Interstate 69 work

MARTINSVILLE (AP) — Nearly 5 miles (8 kilometers) of State Road 37 in south central Indiana will be closed through most of 2021 to speed up construction work on the final segment of the Interstate 69 extension project.

The closure that’s set to begin Saturday morning will allow highway construction crews to work faster and more

safely to turn the state road into interstate lanes through Martinsville for the I-69 project. The Indiana Department of Transportation said the closure will allow work to be completed a full year sooner than if the agency tried to maintain limited access through the work zone.

The construction work will allow INDOT to take another

big step toward connecting I-69 to Indianapolis’ south side. The connection from the Martinsville area to Indianapolis is the sixth and final portion of a 142-mile link to connect Indianapolis to Evansville along the I-69 extension.

During the State Road 37 closure, an official detour for north-south state highway

traffic follows State Roads 39, 67 and 144. INDOT is encouraging long-distance traffic to avoid the construction altogether and use alternate routes including Interstate 65, Interstate 70 and State Road 135.

Several east-west roads will remain open throughout the closure to provide local access across State Road 37, INDOT said.

Woman’s family helps her chart new life after amputations

By **JOSEPH DITS**
South Bend Tribune

SOUTH BEND — Anna Norquist launches from her wheelchair, her new prosthetic legs quivering with each step down a straight line through her parents’ kitchen.

It is practice lap No. 1, exactly two years since the day that an ambulance rushed the gymnast to Indianapolis with a rare, nearly fatal – and still mysterious – case of toxic shock syndrome.

Lap No. 2. The singer Charlie Wilson, whom she fondly calls “Uncle Charlie,” comes on the smart speaker. He’s the same R&B artist whose concert she’d gone to in Chicago just before she fell ill with the bacterial infection that triggered toxic shock, requiring medical procedures that took all her limbs.

On this day, the tune loosens her face into a playful smile and moves her body into a relaxed but slight sway, as she concentrates on each tender step.

“That may be one of my best walks ever,” Anna says.

From behind, her brother Jimmy, 26, follows closely with her wheelchair. Ahead, her brother Patrick, 35, steadies the walker where she rests her only forearm and hand – her left one, which also is a prosthetic.

Jimmy and Patrick ditched jobs in Florida to become her full-time caregivers. Now they take turns sleeping on a couch by her bed, all of them living together in their parents’ home in South Bend because of what their parents had always taught them: “Family first.”

Peggy and Gordon Norquist watch their kids in a cathartic moment they call their daughter’s “Anna-versary.”

By the fourth of five laps, Anna lip-syncs to her favorite Wilson tune, “Life of the Party.” She adds a hint of dance to her step and plops down in her wheelchair with the smile that her family has fought to keep through two years of infections, setbacks and terrors.

They knew this much: The family could survive trauma only if they came together, even when they disagreed.

Anna knew persistence.

Until now, 32-year-old Anna hadn’t given any interviews to media outlets, as her mind still struggles to process the ordeal and what it means to lose her limbs.

Even on recent nights, her brothers say, she woke with phantom pain in her middle finger, or she said, “My left ankle is killing me.” Anxiet-

ies about the future race in her mind. Patrick has talked her through the wee hours of sunrise.

The end of the infections this fall marked a turning point that finally allowed her to walk with the prosthetics.

The future holds dreams of independence – a fully accessible house for the three siblings and a service dog that, among other things, could fetch her prosthetics and allow her to be alone safely. She wants a Doberman Pinscher, she says, “because they’re badass.”

She and her family know it could take more than a year.

It all started in a way that, Jimmy recalls, “felt so slow and so fast at the time.”

Anna, a 2006 graduate of St. Joseph High School, had competed in gymnastics throughout her youth, including at a national level, and later worked as office manager and coach at a gym in Austin, Texas, for three and half years, then coached at a South Bend gym for five months.

On Dec. 3, 2018, flu-like symptoms on the drive home from the Charlie Wilson concert led her to the emergency room at Saint Joseph Medical Center in Mishawaka. The family learned her condition was so severe that she’d die if she didn’t make it to a hospital with more advanced resources. So she was loaded into an ambulance, headed for IU Health Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.

“That was the longest three and a half hours of my life,” Jimmy says.

Anna had been infected with the bacteria Streptococcus A, generating toxins that threatened systems throughout her body. This toxic shock syndrome came with a “very high risk of dying,” says Dr. Whitney Pratt, who specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation at IU Health in Indianapolis, where she runs the amputee clinic.

Doctors needed to preserve blood flow to Anna’s heart and brain – to save her life, Pratt says. But it meant giving her medications to reduce blood flow to her extremities, causing her limbs to die.

It’s unclear how she was infected, Pratt said, though the use of tampons – often a speculation with toxic shock – was ruled out. Generally, the syndrome has been linked to skin burns and cuts, surgeries, vaginal products, and viral infections like the flu or chickenpox.

“She was so swollen you couldn’t tell who she is,” Jimmy recalls.

The brothers abruptly departed the life they’d known. Jimmy had been nestled in Florida for two years, Patrick for 11, where they worked as salesmen, representing tree-trimming contractors, and lived down the street from each other.

Soon, they were staying in the hospital with Anna because she needed someone with her around the clock while she lay in a chemically induced coma. They sang in case she might hear. At one point, she opened her eyes and cried but couldn’t speak.

After the coma, Anna would stay at IU Health hospitals in Indianapolis, her brothers at her side, until the three of them moved into their parents’ two-story home on South Bend’s north side in March 2019.

Their younger brother, Bryan, who’d been with them in the hospital, returned to Florida to salvage college studies that the illness had derailed.

It would launch Anna’s many car trips back to Indianapolis, often three times a week, for therapy and follow-up care.

Meanwhile, Anna’s fellow gymnasts, classmates from St. Joseph High School and other friends held fundraisers to help with the medical bills.

News outlets around the country and even in England reported on Anna’s case. A new Facebook page, Anna’s Army, would soon be on its way to 3,100 followers, many of them strangers inspired by her progress.

Dr. Pratt met Anna a month after she was hospitalized. Outside of Anna’s room, she examined pictures of the amputations. Anna still had both knees, but Pratt was convinced – both then and for months to come – that the left one was unsalvageable, telling the wound therapist, “She needs to get a higher-level amputation.”

Anna would resist that, with support from her mom, knowing that having the knee would give her more mobility in the future.

“It is much, much, much more difficult to use above-knee prosthetics,” Pratt says.

But the decision to save the knee would lead to ongoing infections that were difficult to heal, thanks to the ample skin and fat. Surgeries continued until this spring while her pain level seemed to rise.

This past March, Anna had just been released from one of the surgeries when, while sipping coffee at the kitchen counter, she fell out of her wheelchair. Gordon, her

Toxic Shock

Toxic shock syndrome is a rare, life-threatening complication from bacterial infections. It often stems from toxins caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* (staph) bacteria, but it may also stem from group A *Streptococcus* (strep) bacteria. The syndrome can affect anyone, including men, children and postmenopausal women.

RISK FACTORS: Skin wounds, surgery and tampons and other devices, such as menstrual cups, contraceptive sponges or diaphragms.

SYMPTOMS: Sudden high fever; low blood pressure; vomiting or diarrhea; muscle aches; seizures; redness in eyes, mouth and throat; a rash (like a sunburn), especially on palms and feet.

Call a doctor immediately if you have symptoms, especially if you’ve recently used tampons or if you have a skin or wound infection.

Source: Mayo Clinic

SEEKING HELP: Anna’s family has established a GoFundMe page to help her find a house and live independently.

Go to www.gofundme.com and search for “Anna Norquist.”

dad, found her on the floor with a big lump on her head, wondering if she was dead because she’d stopped breathing. Peggy admits she was “screaming.”

Roused from sleep, Patrick recognized it as a seizure because he’d seen it in his prior work marketing for mental health services. After an ambulance ride, she suffered another seizure in the emergency room. One doctor, Patrick says, felt that anesthesia may have been a factor in the seizures, though Anna’s high stress levels could have been too.

Pratt had long ago ordered Anna’s right prosthetic leg, but Anna wouldn’t use it, frustrating the doctor because her lack of movement could stiffen her muscles, making it harder to stand. But Anna wanted to wait until she could use both legs.

The left one had to wait. The skin had to heal before it could lodge into the prosthetic’s socket because the pressure could irritate the lingering infection.

Wound care became critical. Patrick learned the delicate art, as prescribed by the wound therapist – sending photos and asking questions via FaceTime – and taught the rest of the family, from the gentle cleaning to the strips of medical fabric that spur new skin to grow.

Pratt says the “meticulous” care paid off by September, with the infection so tiny that it was time to don the prosthetic legs.

“Twenty months of doubt and 23 surgeries later, she finally got her legs,” Patrick posted on Facebook. “And when she stood for the first time, I could not hold back my tears.”

Pratt says Anna will continue to face the risk of skin breakdown at the prosthetic’s socket, especially because she has so much scar tissue. To avoid that, the sockets need to fit the skin perfectly. They will need to be changed over time as the limb morphs with muscle loss and age.

“She’s stubborn; we say in rehab that’s a good quality,” Pratt says. As for Anna’s progress on prosthetics, the doctor says, “She’s actually rocking it out.”

She’s progressing faster than her physical therapists expected.

Anna’s mood has flipped “100 percent,” Pratt says, adding, “She went from being an understandably miserable person that didn’t see a future for herself.”

“I never imagined it,” Anna says about taking steps. Sitting in her chair, she pumps her lower legs up, smiles and adds, “These legs got me going.”

She believes her residual strength as a gymnast has helped in visits with the prosthetist and physical therapists.

A year ago, Anna caught a tennis ball with the prosthetic hand she had received that fall. More recently, she’s been climbing stairs. When she stepped with her legs into a car in November, she recalls, “That was really fun.”

Just more than a week after her Dec. 3 “Anna-versary,” she stayed overnight at a friend’s home without her brothers. And she’s been walking without the walker, just a brother at her side.

Asked what she’d say to others who try to move beyond a disability, she replies: “I don’t want to say try, but you can do it. There’s no one way to do this.”

Today, the brothers swap duty every 24 hours at about 4 p.m., and they help Anna to bathe, dress, fix her short blond hair, put on makeup, take her medications and do most daily activities, plus medical and therapy appointments. They help don the big hoop earrings that she likes and the burgundy watch she puts on her prosthetic arm.

Their parents can pitch in because they’re working at home more during the pandemic.

The brothers try to keep Anna laughing, like offering high-fives when her prosthetic arm is off. At Anna’s suggestion, they once carried her upstairs in a laundry basket.

Goofiness and music bridge them over tough waters.

“There are times when you hit your limit,” their mom, Peggy, admits. “It has not been perfect. There are times when we disagree, we’re mad and scared. It’s intense. Then you have to get up (the next day) and get along. You get in your corner and come back when you’re good.”

Jimmy credits his dad, Gordon, an entrepreneur, with being “extremely level headed.” (Patrick adds, “and funny.”)

“He slows everything down,” Jimmy says, “brings us back to Earth and says, ‘This is why we do this.’”

Peggy, a self-employed dietitian who’s completed 34 marathons in 26 states, is a “powerhouse,” Patrick says. “She’s always the first one to go to bat for any one of us. She gets sh-- done.”

“It brought us closer together as a family,” Gordon says.

“We’re a team,” Anna says. “A really good team.”

To blow off steam, the family built a recording studio in the basement where the brothers and a few friends jam as a band twice a week.

“Our family survival depended on those boys having that room,” Peggy says.

The house where Anna, Jimmy and Patrick dream of living would have to be fully customized for her. So would the car she hopes to drive one day. She’s dreamed of raising llamas, too, but for now the goal is to raise money through a GoFundMe campaign and gain financial stability, along with stability on her new legs.

Anna still watches gymnastics on TV and stays in touch with her gymnast friends. Eventually, she’d like to return to the sport as a judge.

“Anna wants her own life,” Patrick says of his sister.

“I think she helps me,” Jimmy says, “more than I help her.”

Bald eagles’ comeback spurs their removal from Indiana list

BLOOMINGTON (AP) — Bald eagles have been removed from Indiana’s list of species deemed endangered or of special concern thanks to the bird’s successful comeback in the state following reintroduction efforts in the 1980s.

The majestic raptors had

all but vanished in Indiana by the late 20th century due to habitat loss, pesticide use and other factors, with the last bald eagle nest recorded in the state in 1897.

But Indiana is now home to such a large bald eagle population the state Natural Resources Commission

recently removed the birds’ designation as a state species of special concern, The Herald-Times reported.

That move comes after bald eagles were upgraded from a state-endangered species to the special concern category in 2008 after Indiana reached a goal of 50

nesting pairs.

State wildlife biologists estimate that in 2020 there were about 300 bald eagle nesting pairs across 84 Hoosier counties. And during the last five years, at least one bald eagle nest has been documented in 88 of Indiana’s 92 counties, usually near riv-

ers, streams and large bodies of water.

The precise number of nests isn’t known because physical surveys were discontinued in 2010, when 120 bald eagle nesting territories were reported around the state, said Allisyn-Marie Gillet, the state bird

biologist with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

“The bald eagle populations are growing. We don’t do a comprehensive survey anymore,” Gillet told The Herald-Times, adding that surrounding states have also seen the species rebound.



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Legals

Alcohol & Tobacco Commission
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The Alcohol Beverage Board of Wabash County, Indiana will hold a public hearing at 9:00 am on January 13, 2021 virtually through Microsoft Teams, to investigate the propriety of holding an alcoholic beverage permit by the applicants listed below.
Information on accessing the virtual meeting can be found at
https://www.in.gov/atc/2855.htm.
RR8537019 Beer Wine & Liquor - Restaurant (210) NEW; OAKWOOD PALLET GRILL LLC 1406 State Road 114 W North Manchester IN., D/B/A The Volcan Restaurant LLC.
hspxalp.1/2/2021

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Legals

The Noble Twp Advisory Board will meet with the Noble Twp Trustee at 6:30 pm on Jan. 5, 2021 to review the 2020 financials. The meeting will be held in the Trustee's office located at 4181 S 150 W Wabash. HSPAXLP.12/30/2020,01/02/2021

Legals
85C01-2012-EU-000100
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Circuit Court of Wabash County, Indiana In the Matter of the Unsupervised Estate of Gene A. Michel, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that Sharon E. Michel was on the 29th day of December, 2020 appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Gene A. Michel, deceased, who died on the 11th day of November, 2020.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the Decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Wabash, Indiana, 2020 .
/s/ Lori J. Draper (Seal)
Clerk of the Wabash Circuit Court
HARTBURG ROTH GARROTT HALVERSTADT GARRETT LLP
(Lisa M. Garrott) #24624-64
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Huntington, Indiana 46750-0269
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Legal

Public Notice
City of Wabash, Indiana Board of Aviation Commissioners
Wabash Municipal Airport
The Board of Aviation Commissioners will conduct public monthly meetings for the Wabash Municipal Airport at 3:30 p.m. local time at the airport Terminal building. Location: 283 West 400 South Wabash, Indiana 46992
January 13, 2021
February 10, 2021
March 10, 2021
April 14, 2021
May 12, 2021
June 9, 2021
July 14, 2021
August 11, 2021
September 8, 2021
October 13, 2021
November 10, 2021
December 8, 2021
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TODAY'S CLUE: X equals A

Area teams compete in Wabash County Wrestling Inv.

Norse wrestlers will be hosting Peru at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6

By ALINA REED
Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

On Tuesday, Dec. 29, Northfield hosted their annual wrestling invite. At 9 a.m., prospective fans came out to show support to the local wrestlers. Southwood, Wabash and Manchester were set and ready to face the Norse.

To start the day, Northfield faced Manchester while Southwood faced Wabash. Northfield's senior Bethany Hay started off the match and ended up being pinned in 40 seconds. Increasing in weight class, the Norse started to fall short to the Squires due to pins and decisions. The Norseman did their best to hold a fight, but it wasn't enough to come on top against the Squires. In total, Manchester racked up 51 points and the Norse ended with 21.

Next up, the Norse battled with the Apaches on the mat. Wabash held their own and continued to make Northfield fight, leaving them tired. The Norse fell to Wabash with the final score being 30-46.

The last rotation for Northfield was against Southwood.



Photo by Alina Reed / Plain Dealer

Northfield freshman Lane Denton refused to be pinned.

Forfeits started off this match with the 106, 113 and 120 weight classes. Though this was the last round for Northfield, this gave them more motivation to finish strong. As this final round came to a close, the Norse came out victorious against Southwood with a final score of 59-18.

Manchester High School ended up taking first place going 3-0. The Squires were able to take home the trophy for the first time since 2016. Colten Nelson, Dylan Stroud, Jordan Ayres, Zach France and Dominic Lincoln were able to finish the day off as undefeated champions.

Wabash finished second

place overall as a team. They were able to finish off with a final score of 31-39. Jared Brooks, Ethan Higgins, Grant Carandante and Bryson Zapata finished as champions for Wabash. Ethan Higgins also celebrated his 100th win during the tournament.

Northfield took third place overall for the day. Overall champions from Northfield included Spencer Burnsworth, Logan Cox, Micah Higgins and Mason Osborn.

"Even though wrestling is more of an individual sport, the bond with your teammates is stronger than any other sport," said Cox. "I'm really hoping to win confer-

ence and qualify for state this year."

"Trying to stay focused on what I'm trying to accomplish is challenging at times," said Micah Higgins. "Keeping a mindset of wanting to be the best you can be helps me during my matches."

Southwood came last in the tournament. For Southwood, Aaliyan Douglas finished as champion for the 106-weight class.

Northfield will be hosting Peru at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6.

Alina Reed, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplainealer.com.

No. 7 Indiana excited to be in Outback Bowl

By FRED GOODALL
Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — No. 7 Indiana is not going to let anything dampen its enthusiasm.

Bypassed for a berth in a New Year's Six game despite being off to their best start since 1993 and holding their own in a seven-point loss to CFP participant Ohio State, the Hoosiers (6-1) will close a breakout season against Mississippi (4-5) in Saturday's Outback Bowl.

"We were definitely kind of bummed out about what happened with the New Year's Six bowl game, but we just kind of used that as fuel to the fire," running back Stevie Scott III said.

"It has been 29 years since we last won a bowl game," quarterback Jack Tuttle said. "We are fighting and doing everything that we can to be in the best possible situation for Saturday to get the win."

Indiana hasn't won a post-season game since beating Baylor 24-0 in the 1991 Copper Bowl. The Hoosiers are appearing in consecutive Jan-

uary games for the first time in program history, and the trip to the Outback is a homecoming or sorts for coach Tom Allen and a number of his players.

Indiana's roster includes 22 players from the start of Florida, 10 from the Tampa Bay area, where Allen once coached high school ball and later returned to work as an assistant coach at USF, which plays its home games in Raymond James Stadium.

Tuttle, a transfer from Utah, will make his second start for the Hoosiers in place of one of those Tampa area products, Michael Penix, Jr., who suffered a season-ending knee injury that could have derailed Indiana in late November. Instead, the Hoosiers rallied around Tuttle and beat Wisconsin 14-6 in what turned out to be the only game the team has played in the past month.

"That game helped me improve so much and gain confidence," Tuttle said. "Now it's not about it's his first start, it's time to get your feet wet." Now it's just kind of playing

football, improving from that game and prepping for Ole Miss."

Mississippi, which will be short-handed due to some opt outs and injuries, is in a bowl game for the first time in five years. The Rebels have also been dealing with COVID-19 issues, but coach Lane Kiffin said there never was really a question whether the team would make the trip to Florida.

"This will be challenging. They are very good. ... Their only loss is to Ohio State by one score," Kiffin said of Indiana.

"We're really struggling with injuries and opt outs and COVID," Kiffin added. "We're kind of running out of players, which is not ideal when you're a tempo offense. But it is what it is."

Stout defense

Penix was a big part of Indiana's success this season, however, the defense led by linebacker Micah McFadden did its part, too. The Hoosiers have allowed an average of 19.4 points and 361.7 total

yards. They led the nation with 17 interceptions, even though Indiana played only seven games.

We play offense, too

Scott and wide receiver Ty Fryfogle are key components in Indiana's offense. Scott rushed for 462 yards and eight touchdowns and Fryfogle has 34 receptions for 687 yards and seven TDs this season.

Tuttle calls Fryfogle, a native of Mississippi, a "special" player.

"He is great and makes my job a whole lot easier," the quarterback said.

Rare matchup

This will be the first meeting between the schools. In fact, it's rare that Ole Miss is facing a Big Ten opponent at all. The Rebels are 2-4 against current members of the Big Ten. They haven't faced a team from that league since beating Nebraska in the 2002 Independence Bowl. The Cornhuskers actually were members of the Big 12 at that time.

Colts focused on playoff berth against Jaguars

By MICHAEL MAROT
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Colts coach Frank Reich made one thing perfectly clear this week. No scoreboard watching allowed Sunday.

Sure, he knows Indianapolis needs help to make the playoffs. And yes, he realizes the results from three of the four other key games could be in before kickoff. Still, he wants his players to focus on the one thing they can control: beating Jacksonville.

"The relevant scores will not be up on the scoreboard," Reich said after discussing the options with general manager Chris Ballard. "It's a potential distraction. Maybe it's not to all guys, but if it's a distraction to one guy that's one guy too many. It's just better not to have them up there."

Indianapolis could have avoided all this if it had protected a 17-point, third-quarter lead last week at Pittsburgh. Instead, the Steelers

scored the final 21 points, sending Indy from sixth to eighth in the battle for the AFC's seven playoff spots.

Pittsburgh and Buffalo, both 12-3, could lend a hand as they battle for the conference's No. 2 seed. The Steelers visit Cleveland, with Ben Roethlisberger and other regulars expected to sit out, while the Bills host Miami. The Browns, Dolphins and Baltimore Ravens are all 10-5, like the Colts, but are ahead of Indy based on tiebreakers.

The Colts could still win the AFC South title if Tennessee loses at Houston.

But there is one common theme in each playoff chapter. "Every scenario involves the Colts beating the Jags," Philip Rivers said. "That's the only one we have a say in, so I think we have to just be focused on what we can control, find a way to get win No. 11 and don't be distracted by all the other games."

The Jags (1-14) don't have

much at stake.

They've lost 14 straight, already won the Trevor Lawrence sweepstakes, and may be about to embark on a major offseason overhaul. General manager David Caldwell was fired, quarterback Gardner Minshew was benched, top rusher James Robinson won't play because of an ankle injury, and coach Doug Marrone could be gone soon, too.

Marrone is just 12-35 since leading Jacksonville to the AFC championship game following the 2017 season.

"I think obviously there will be change, I don't know (how)," Marrone said. "I'm not informed of anything like that, but obviously there's going to be a lot of change going on. But my whole focus is try to get this win."

The Colts know this game is no gimme.

Jacksonville has won the last two in this series and five of the last seven, including a 27-20 opening-day victory. So Reich's message is sim-

ple: Tune out the noise and finish the job.

"It's just better not to have them (the scores) up there," Reich said. "It can do nothing to add to what we have to do — focus our energy on Jacksonville."

The replacement

Left tackle Anthony Castonzo was scheduled to have season-ending surgery on his right ankle Thursday, leaving the Colts with a big hole for their most important game of the season.

Castonzo's top backup, Le'Raven Clark, suffered a torn left Achilles tendon earlier this year. Will Holden, who replaced Castonzo last week, has been ruled out this week with a knee injury.

Indy could start Chaz Green in Castonzo's spot. Reich also could use three-time Pro Bowl guard Quenton Nelson in Castonzo's spot. Or the Colts could activate veteran Jared Veldheer, who was signed to the practice squad Thursday.

SCOREBOARD

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Buffalo	12	3	0	.800	445	349
Miami	10	5	0	.667	378	282
New England	6	9	0	.400	298	339
N.Y. Jets	2	13	0	.133	229	429

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	10	5	0	.667	423	348
Tennessee	10	5	0	.667	450	401
Houston	4	11	0	.267	346	423
Jacksonville	1	14	0	.067	292	464

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Pittsburgh	12	3	0	.800	394	288
Baltimore	10	5	0	.667	430	300
Cleveland	10	5	0	.667	384	397
Cincinnati	4	10	1	.300	308	386

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
zyx-Kansas City	14	1	0	.933	452	324
Las Vegas	7	8	0	.467	402	447
L.A. Chargers	6	9	0	.400	346	405
Denver	5	10	0	.333	292	414

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	6	9	0	.400	376	450
Washington	6	9	0	.400	315	315
N.Y. Giants	5	10	0	.333	257	338
Phila.	4	10	1	.300	320	398

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-New Orleans	11	4	0	.733	449	330
x-Tampa Bay	10	5	0	.667	448	328
Carolina	5	10	0	.333	343	369
Atlanta	4	11	0	.267	369	370

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Green Bay	12	3	0	.800	474	353
Chicago	8	7	0	.533	356	335
Minnesota	6	9	0	.400	393	440
Detroit	5	10	0	.333	342	482

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Seattle	11	4	0	.733	433	348
L.A. Rams	9	6	0	.600	354	289
Arizona	8	7	0	.533	403	349
San Francisco	6	9	0	.400	353	364

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched first round bye
-clinched home-field advantage

Sunday's Games

Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
Miami at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at New England, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Arizona at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m.
Green Bay at Chicago, 4:25 p.m.
Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 4:25 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at Kansas City, 4:25 p.m.
Las Vegas at Denver, 4:25 p.m.
New Orleans at Carolina, 4:25 p.m.
Seattle at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
Tennessee at Houston, 4:25 p.m.
Washington at Phila., 8:20 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

2020-21 Bowl Glance
Wednesday, Dec. 30
DUKE'S MAYO BOWL
Charlotte, N.C.
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No. 8 Oklahoma 55, No. 10 Florida 20

Thursday, Dec. 31
ARMED FORCES BOWL
Fort Worth, Texas
Mississippi St., 28, No. 22 Tulsa 26

ARIZONA BOWL
Tucson, Ariz.
No. 19 San Jose St. 13, Ball State. 34

LIBERTY BOWL
Memphis, Tenn.
West Virginia vs. Army, 4 p.m. (ESPN)

TEXAS BOWL
Houston
TCU vs. Arkansas, canceled

Friday, Jan. 1
PEACH BOWL
Atlanta
No. 6 Cincinnati vs. No. 11 Georgia

CITRUS BOWL
Orlando, Fla.
No. 15 Northwestern vs. Auburn

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF SEMIFINAL
ROSE BOWL
Arlington, Texas
No. 1 Alabama vs. No. 4 Notre Dame

SUGAR BOWL
New Orleans
No. 2 Clemson vs. No. 3 Ohio St.

Saturday, Jan. 2
GATOR BOWL
Jacksonville, Fla.
No. 24 NC State vs. Kentucky, Noon (ESPN)

OUTBACK BOWL
Tampa, Fla.
No. 7 Indiana vs. Mississippi, 12:30 p.m. (ABC)

FIESTA BOWL
Glendale, Ariz.
No. 12 Iowa State vs. No. 25 Oregon, 4 p.m. (ESPN)

ORANGE BOWL
Miami Gardens, Fla.
No. 5 Texas A&M vs. No. 14 North Carolina, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 11
COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Rose Bowl winner vs. Sugar Bowl winner, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phila.	4	1	.800	—
Brooklyn	3	2	.600	1
Boston	3	2	.600	1
New York	2	3	.400	2
Toronto	1	3	.250	2½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	4	1	.800	—
Atlanta	3	1	.750	½
Charlotte	2	2	.500	1½
Miami	2	2	.500	1½
Washington	0	5	.000	4

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	4	1	.800	—
Cleveland	3	2	.600	1
Chicago	2	3	.400	2
Milwaukee	2	3	.400	2
Detroit	0	4	.000	3½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	3	2	.600	—
San Antonio	2	2	.500	½
Houston	1	2	.333	1
Dallas	1	3	.250	1½
Memphis	1	3	.250	1½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	2	2	.500	—
Utah	2	2	.500	—
Portland	2	2	.500	—
Denver	1	3	.250	1
Oklahoma City	1	3	.250	1

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	4	1	.800	—
Phoenix	3	2	.600	1
Sacramento	3	2	.600	1
L.A. Lakers	2	2	.500	1½
Golden State	2	2	.500	1½

Thursday's Games

Indiana 119, Cleveland 99
Chicago 133, Washington 130
Phila. 116, Orlando 92
Houston 122, Sacramento 119
Toronto 100, New York 83
New Orleans 113, Oklahoma City 80
Phoenix 106, Utah 95

Friday's Games

Boston at Detroit
Memphis at Charlotte
Miami at Dallas
Atlanta at Brooklyn

Chicago at Milwaukee
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio
Washington at Minnesota
L.A. Clippers at Utah
Phoenix at Denver
Portland at Golden State

Saturday's Games

Sacramento at Houston, 5 p.m.
Charlotte at Phila., 7 p.m.
New York at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at New Orleans, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Boston at Detroit, 3 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 6 p.m.
Washington at Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
Denver at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Utah at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Chicago, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.

Monday's Games

Charlotte at Phila., 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Boston at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Houston, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Indiana at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Golden State, 10 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

Conference	W	L	Pct	All Games
Virginia Tech	2	0	1.000	8 1 .889
NC State	2	0	1.000	6 1 .857
Louisville	1	0	1.000	6 1 .857
Syracuse	1	0	1.000	6 1 .857
Virginia	1	0	1.000	5 2 .714
Duke	1	0	1.000	3 2 .600
Clemson	1	1	.500	7 1 .875
Florida St.	1	1	.500	5 2 .714
Pittsburgh	1	1	.500	5 2 .714
Georgia Tech	1	1	.500	5 3 .625
Wake Forest	0	0	.000	3 0 .000
Miami	0	2	.000	4 3 .571
North Carolina	0	2	.000	4 5 .556
Notre Dame	0	2	.000	3 5 .375
Boston College	0	2	.000	2 6 .250

Thursday's Games

Wake Forest 70, Catawba 62

Saturday's Games

Louisville at Boston College, Noon
Clemson at Miami, 2 p.m.
Virginia Tech at Virginia, 2 p.m.
Notre Dame at North Carolina, 4 p.m.
Duke at Florida St., 8 p.m.
Notre Dame at Pittsburgh, p.p.d.
Syracuse at North Carolina, p.p.d.

Sunday's Games

Wake Forest at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.

BIG EAST CONFERENCE


Conference	W	L
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Church Directory

ASSEMBLY OF GOD


Gospel Light Assembly of God, 347 Southwood Drive. Pastor Neil Jeffrey. Sunday School 9:45am (all ages). Morning worship service 10:30am. Evening service 6pm. Wednesday midweek service 7pm; Kids' Korral Wednesday 7pm. Youth meeting 7pm (ages 12-19).

 **Sweetwater Assembly of God**, 2551 SR 114 E, North Manchester. (260) 982-6179. Sunday worship 9am & 10:45am. Sunday evening outreach groups & youth ministry 5-7pm. Wednesday 6:30pm adult/teen bible study, 6:30pm Kidz Zone (K thru 6th grade). All worship services streaming online and on our Facebook page.

BAPTIST

Emmanuel Free Will Baptist, 129 Southwood Drive. Pastor Terry Hinds. (260) 563-3009. Sunday School 9:30am. Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm; Children's Church 10:30am. Wednesday morning prayer service 11am. Wednesday Prayer meeting 6pm. Transportation available. Sunday worship services streaming on our Facebook page

Southside Free Will Baptist, 360 Columbus Street. Pastor Tim Webb. Sunday School 10am. Worship Service 11am. Sunday Evening 6pm. Wednesday Evening 6pm. Sunday worship services streaming online

 **Wabash Free Will Baptist Church**, 1056 Erie Street. Wednesday evening prayer meeting 6pm. Sunday School 10am, Church 11am; evening service 6pm.

CATHOLIC

 **St. Bernard Catholic Church**, corner of Cass & Sinclair. Father Levi Nkwocha. Masses will resume, with safety restrictions, beginning May 23-24, 2020. Everyone attending Mass must wear a face mask. Masses: Saturday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday at 8:15 a.m.


 **St. Patrick's Catholic Church**, Main Street in Lagro, Welcomes You Back! New Service Time 11:00 AM Sunday, October 4, Sunday November 1 and Sunday December 6. In keeping with COVID-19 State Rules, please wear a mask and socially distance. Let Us Worship Together.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

 **Christian Heritage Church**, 2776 River Road. (260) 569-7710. Pastor Tim Prater. Sunday 8:30am. Radio Ministry 95.9 WKUZ. Sunday School 9:30am. Morning Service 10:30am. Sunday evening 6pm. Wednesday evening 6pm. Online services on Sunday at 10:30 am and Wednesday 6:00 pm

LaFontaine Christian Church, 202 Bruner Pike, LaFontaine. Minister Brad Wright. (765) 981-2101. Worship 9am & 10:30am, Nursery & Jr. Church available. Online Services available on our website

CHURCH OF CHRIST

 **Church of Christ**, Wabash (corner of N Wabash Street and US 24). Evangelist Josh Fennell (260) 563-8234. Sunday School 9am. Morning Worship 10am. Evening Worship 6:30pm. Wednesday Service 7pm. Wednesday Kid's Jam 7pm.


CHURCH OF GOD

First Church of God, 525 N. Miami Street. Pastor Robert Rensberger. (260) 563-5346. Sunday School at 9:15am, for all ages. Continental breakfast at 10am. Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30am. Nursery care is available during worship service. Stair lift available.


CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

 **Wabash Church of the Brethren**, 645 Bond Street (off Falls Avenue). Pastor Doug Veal. (260) 563-5291. Wherever you are on life's journey, come join us as we continue the work of Jesus... Peacefully, Simply, Together. Sunday School 9:30am. Worship 10:30am. Children's church and nursery available during worship. Online Service through website or conference call.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

 **Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**, 110 W. Hill St., Wabash; Rev. Haley Asberry, Minister; phone: 260-563-4179; website: www.wabashchristian.org. Worship Service 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Nursery provided. Find us on Facebook. Services streaming on our website and Facebook.

FRIENDS CHURCH

 **Wabash Friends Church**, 3563 S State Rd 13. (260) 563-8452. Lead Pastor, Brandon Eaton. Join us for Church at Home, our live-streamed service, on Facebook on Sunday morning at 10:45AM. In person services are temporarily suspended.

INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

 **Bachelor Creek Church of Christ**, 4 miles north of Wabash on St. Rd. 15; phone 260-563-4109; website: bachelorcreek.com; Worship Minister - Michael Eaton, Student Minister - David Diener, Children's Minister - Tyler Leland, Middle School & Small Groups Minister - Nate Plyler, Next Steps & Outreach Minister - Ryan Keim, Women's Director- Taylor McFarland, Early Childhood Director - Janet Legesse. Worship 9:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.


LUTHERAN


Living Faith Lutheran Church (NALC), 242 S. Huntington St., Wabash, IN. Worship begins each Sunday morning at 10:10 a.m. with Bible study classes for all ages at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship. Worship Services live streamed on our website. www.LivingFaithWabash.org

Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA), 1500 S Wabash Street. Pastor Dr. Kent Young. (260) 563-6626. We worship our Lord each Sunday at 9:30am with Gospel-based message and Holy Communion. There is a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following the service. We are handicap accessible and everyone is welcome at Trinity! tlcwabash@gmail.com.

UNITED METHODIST

 **North Manchester United Methodist Church**, 306 E Second Street, North Manchester. Pastor Steve Bahrt. (260) 982-7537. Worship Service 8:15am & 10:30am. Coffee Fellowship 9am. Sunday School 9:30am.

 **Richvalley United Methodist Church**, 290 N Jefferson. (260) 563-1033. Pastor Jack Suits. Worship service begins at 9:30am. Nursery available. Sunday School begins at 10:45am for all age.

 **Roann United Methodist Church**, Corner of Adams and Arnold Street, Roann. Pastor Wayne Balmer. (765) 833-2931. Worship Celebration 9am. Sunday School 10:15am.





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CLEARING THE CLUTTER



The ringing in of a brand new year is at hand, and with it the resolutions. One might be to clear away the clutter – and that includes deciding what to do with it. How will you decide what is worth retaining? What is most important to know in order to live a useful, peaceful, and joyous life? God’s Word should be of utmost consideration when we establish priorities. When we follow His advice, everything else falls into place. We know what is important and what is not. The result is a sense of peace and joy, even amid the confusion of life. Won’t you begin this year with your community of faith? It is the best resolution of them all.

Daily Bible Reading						
John 1:19-34	Phil. 1:1-30	Phil. 2:1-30	Phil. 3:1-21	Phil. 4:1-23	2021 Verse	2021 Verse
Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society						
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